## CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-11** 

INTRODUCED BY:



SUPPORTING THE RAILYARD STEWARDS EFFORTS AT THE RAILYARD PARK

AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH

THE RAILYARD STEWARDS TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE RAILYARD PARK.

WHEREAS, the Railyard Stewards is a grassroots organization working in partnership with the City of Santa Fe, The Trust for Public Land, and the Santa Fe Railyard Community Corporation in a care, conservation and education effort that encourages residents to actively participate in the Railyard Park, the City's newest and largest city park, and adjacent community plaza; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards have existed as a citizen group for over a decade, formalized as the Railyard Stewards in 2009, and are recognized as an official city partner in the official policies and procedures for the Railyard Park, Plaza and Alameda approved by the Governing Body in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards mission is to provides community stewardship and advocacy for the care and programming of the Railyard Park and Plaza; and

WHEREAS, the Railyard Park is intended to be a vibrant, beautiful, popular and safe community gathering place representing the history, values and aspirations of the people of Santa Fe; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 the Stewards provided approximately 3600 hours equivalent to \$118,000 that the city did not have to spend including: specialized horticultural care and training (260 hours at \$25/hour totaling \$6,500); coordination for outreach, volunteers and fundraising (1484 hours at \$35/hour totaling \$51,940); programming, events and marketing (\$9,500); Railyard park care (754 hours at \$20/hour totaling \$15,080); direction and specialized skills (710 hours at \$35/hour totaling \$24,850); and community garden coordination (450 hours at \$35/hour totaling \$9,000) as well as donated materials (\$1,500); and

WHEREAS, the above includes 1300 hands-on hours of care in the Railyard Park and community garden, with over 150 people participating totaling 90 community work days equivalent to \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Stewards coordinated workshops featuring speakers on topics ranging from tree care to compost to integrated pest management, with opportunities for City outreach including two workshops presented by the City's pest management coordinator to over 50 community members on tree pruning, in workshops organized by the Stewards; and

WHEREAS, efforts by the Stewards offsets costs by Parks, Trails and Watershed Division of the City of Santa Fe for specialized maintenance of the Railyard Park; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards have raised over \$135,000 for the care and programming of the Railyard and will continue to work to raise funds from businesses, foundations and individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards work hard to leverage funds through volunteers and shared resources, keeping costs low while providing quality service to the City of Santa Fe and its residents, businesses and tourists; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards budget for 2010 is approximately \$100,000 of which the Stewards have raised \$30,000; and

WHEREAS, the Stewards have requested \$25,000 per year from the city for three years towards the ongoing efforts of the Railyard Stewards; and

WHEREAS, because of the volunteer labor provided by the Stewards, an investment of \$25,000 per year by the city most likely results in three to five times that in services to the city for the Railyard Park; and

WHEREAS, public/private partnerships are a benefit to the community and the city, particularly in these difficult economic times, because the city does not have the resources for the proper care of the Railyard park that the Stewards are providing and this huge investment deserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE that the Governing Body supports the Railyard Stewards efforts at the Railyard Park and directs staff to identify funding and enter into a three year agreement with the Railyard Stewards for \$25,000 per year to provide services for the Railyard Park including such services as:

- 1. Coordinating community hands-on volunteers in the Railyard open space areas for specialized plant care, invasive species removal and coordination and care of the community food gardens.
- 2. Continuing the "Outdoor Classroom" program in the Railyard Park to provide educational programming for youth groups and public school groups, helping to provide care of the Railyard Park and educating the public about the Railyard Park and horticultural and agricultural techniques.
- 3. Continuing "Garden in the Park" workshop series, featuring speakers on horticultural and agricultural, with opportunities for City outreach in workshops organized by the

1	Stewards.
2	4. Raising funds for the Railyard Park.
3	PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 24 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.
4	
5	
6	LadCoss
7	DAVID COSS, MAYOR
8	
9	ATTEST:
10	
11	galande y. J.g.
12	YOLANDA Y YIGIL, CITY CLERK
13	
14	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
15	
16	Teno
17	GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	

Jp/ca/jpmb/2010 res/railyard park stewards